

In The Claims

Claims 1-50 (Canceled)

51. (Currently Amended) An ejector pin for a mold comprising:

(a) a head; and

(b) a barrel including an end at which the head is disposed, the barrel having a length that is capable of being cut and thereby decreased in length so as to accommodate a mold into which the ejector pin is to be assembled, wherein the barrel has a hardened portion and a softer portion that is softer than the hardened portion, the softer portion having an end that is cut to decrease the length of the barrel so as to accommodate the mold in which the ejector pin is to be assembled; and

wherein the head and barrel are reciprocable relative to the mold.

52. (Currently Amended) An ejector pin of claim 51, ~~wherein the barrel has a hardened portion and a softer portion that is softer than the hardened portion which has an end that is cut to decrease the length of the barrel so as to accommodate the mold in which the ejector pin is to be assembled and wherein, after the barrel has been cut to decrease the length of the barrel, the head is integrally formed in the softer portion.~~

53. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 51, wherein the barrel has an end that is cut to decrease the length of the barrel so as to accommodate the mold in which the ejector pin is to be assembled and the head comprises a separate component that is mounted the end of the barrel that has been cut.

54. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 53, further comprising an insert received in a pocket in the barrel of the pin that is disposed at an end that is opposite the end at which the head is mounted.

55. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 54, wherein the insert comprises an indicia-imprinting insert, and further comprising a cup mounted to the end of the barrel that is opposite the end at which the head is mounted and wherein the indicia-imprinting insert is removably received in the cup.

56. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 51, wherein the head comprises a separate component that is threadably received by the barrel to mount the head to the barrel.

57. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 56, wherein the head is comprised of a pair of spaced apart arms and further comprising a fastener that extends from one arm to the other arm to clamp the head to the barrel.

58. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 56, wherein the head includes an axially inwardly extending recess that is defined by an upraised sidewall, the recess facing the barrel when the barrel is assembled into the head, and wherein the sidewall includes a plurality of notches forming a notched inner periphery; and wherein the barrel includes a radially inwardly extending groove that extends axially at least a portion of the length of the barrel, and

further comprising a coupling ring that is received in the recess in the head and that prevents rotation of the ring relative to the head.

59. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 58, wherein the coupling ring includes (i) a pair of radially outwardly extending, circumferentially spaced apart projections that are received in a pair of the notches of the sidewall, and (ii) a locator projection that extends radially inwardly from the ring and that is received in the groove of the barrel.

60. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 59, wherein the notches of the sidewall and locator projection are generally arcuate.

61. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 59, wherein the groove extends axially from the threaded end of the barrel toward the opposite end.

62. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 61, wherein the groove is an elongate groove that terminates axially beyond the threaded portion at an unthreaded portion of the barrel.

63. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 61, wherein the coupling ring comprises a washer.

64. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 51, wherein the head comprises a separate component that engages the end of the barrel to which the head is mounted to prevent relative rotation between the head and the barrel.

65. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 64, wherein the head includes a pocket and the end of the barrel to which the head is mounted is received in the pocket and the pocket is configured so as to prevent relative rotation between the head and the barrel when the head is mounted to the barrel.

66. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 65 further comprising a fastener that mounts the head to the barrel.

67. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 64, wherein one of the barrel and the head has a first locator flat and the other one of the barrel and the head has a second complementary locator flat that contacts the first locator flat when the barrel is received in the pocket to prevent relative rotation between the barrel and the head.

68. (Original) An ejector pin of claim 51 wherein the barrel has a cut end where it is cut to length, and the head comprises a separate component that is friction welded or inertia welded to the cut end of the barrel.

69. (Original) An ejector pin for a mold comprising:

- (a) a head;
- (b) a barrel having a hardened portion at one end that contacts a part being molded to eject that part and a portion that is softer than the hardened portion at an end at which the head is disposed, the barrel having a length that is capable of being cut to form the end at which the head is disposed and thereby decreased in length so as to accommodate a mold into which the ejector pin is to be assembled;
- (c) a fastener that mounts the head to the barrel; and
- (d) wherein one of the head and the barrel adjacent the end that is capable of being cut has a locator flat and the other one of the head and the barrel adjacent the end that is capable of being cut has a complementary locator wall that mate to oppose relative rotation between the head and the barrel when the head is mounted to the barrel.

70. (Original) An ejector pin for a mold comprising:

(a) a head;

(b) a barrel having a hardened portion at one end that contacts a part being molded to eject that part and a portion that is softer than the hardened portion at an end at which the head is disposed, the barrel having a length that is capable of being cut to form the end at which the head is disposed and thereby decreased in length so as to accommodate a mold into which the ejector pin is to be assembled;

(c) wherein the head is friction welded or inertia welded to the cut end of the barrel.

71. (canceled)

72. (canceled)

73. (canceled)

74. (New) An ejector pin for a mold comprising:

(a) a head;

(b) a barrel including an end at which the head is disposed, the barrel having a length that is capable of being cut and thereby decreased in length so as to accommodate the mold into which the ejector pin is to be assembled, wherein the barrel has a hardened portion with a barrel end and a softer portion that is softer than the hardened portion, the softer portion having an end that is cut to decrease the length of the barrel so as to accommodate the mold in which the ejector pin is to be assembled, and wherein, after the barrel has been cut to decrease the length of the barrel, the head is integrally formed in the softer portion;

(c) wherein the barrel is reciprocable relative to the mold.

75. (New) An ejector pin for a mold comprising:
- (a) a head;
 - (b) a barrel including an end at which the head is disposed, the barrel having a length that is capable of being cut and thereby decreased in length so as to accommodate the mold into which the ejector pin is to be assembled, wherein the barrel has a hardened portion with a barrel end and a softer portion that is softer than the hardened portion, the softer portion having an end that is cut to decrease the length of the barrel so as to accommodate the mold in which the ejector pin is to be assembled, and wherein, after the barrel has been cut to decrease the length of the barrel, the head is attached to an end of the softer portion of the barrel;
 - (c) wherein the barrel is reciprocable relative to the mold.

76. (New) An ejector pin for a mold comprising:
- (a) a head;
 - (b) a barrel including an end at which the head is disposed, the barrel having a length that is capable of being cut and thereby decreased in length so as to accommodate the mold into which the ejector pin is to be assembled, wherein the barrel has a hardened portion with a barrel end and a softer portion that is softer than the hardened portion, the softer portion having an end that is cut to decrease the length of the barrel so as to accommodate the mold in which the ejector pin is to be assembled, and wherein, after the barrel has been cut to decrease the length of the barrel, the head is attached to an end of the softer portion of the barrel;
 - (c) an insert carried by the hardened barrel end that has an imprintable indicia thereon;
 - (d) wherein the barrel is reciprocable relative to the mold.